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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/763,055

01/22/2004

Bernd Hagmann

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02/01/2005

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EXAMINER

HYEON, HAE M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/763,055

Applicant(s)

HAGMANN ET AL.

Examiner

Hae M Hyeon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 June 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1-22-04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character “8.6” has been used to designate both **axially throughgoing passages and end face of the rear body**. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled “Replacement Sheet” in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: “**end face 8.6** of the rear body” recited on page 11, line 22. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled “Replacement Sheet” in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- Page 10, line 26, words “hol s” and “fing rs” have missing letters.
- Page 11, line 9, recites, “rearwardly flaring regions 8.2,” but line 12 recites, “tapered region 8.2.” The terminology for the same element should have the same terminology consistently through out the specification.
- Page 13, line 2 has words with missing letter.
- Page 14, line 1 has words with missing letter.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8 and 12 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- Claim 1, lines 3-4 recites, “rear-end parts” but line 7 recites, “the parts.” Then claim 2 recites “the rear-end parts” and claim 3 recites, “the parts.” The terminology should be consistent through out the claims.
- Claim 5, line 2, the examiner suggests the applicant to change “conductive shielding” to -- a conductive shielding --.
- In claim 7, line 5, the examiner suggests the applicant to change “the intermediate-body passage” to -- the passage of the intermediate body --.
- In claim 8, lines 1-2, the examiner suggests the applicant to change “the rear-body passage” to -- the passage of the rear body --.
- Claim 12, line 2 has missing letters

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Appropriate correction is required.

5. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the main body" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

It seems that "the main body" is "the front insulating body" recited in line 1.

6. Claim 5 recites the limitation "the cable" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 1 and 2 do not recite "the cable."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

9. Claim 13 recites the limitation "the contact parts" in lines 1-2 and "the middle-body passage" in lines 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

It is not clear what are "the contact parts," since claims 1 and 2 only recite "rear-end parts" of the contact. Also, it is not clear what is "the middle-body passage." It seems that "the middle-body passage" might be the axially tapered passage of the intermediate body. The examiner would like to remind the applicant again to use the same terminology for the same element consistently through out the claims in order to reduce the confusion and misunderstanding.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11. Claims 1-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Del Negro et al (5,586,910).

Del Negro discloses a connector 10 comprising a front insulating body 54; a contact 58 fixed in the front body 54 and having rear-end parts 22 forming an axially open seat 62 with rearwardly projecting elastic tongues 66 for receiving a conductor 6 of a stripped wire 2; an intermediate body 24 formed with an axially tapered passage 64 fitting over the rear-end parts 22 and axially displaceable to displace the rear-end parts 22 radially toward one another; an electrically conductive sleeve 12 coaxially surrounding the front body 54 and the intermediate body 24; an electrically conductive element 30 in the sleeve radially pressing on a shielding 4 of the wire 2 and a rear body 14 formed with an axially throughgoing passage 97 and fittable with the intermediate body 24 with its passage 97 aligned with the passage 64 of the intermediate body 24.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

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having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 6 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Del Negro et al in view of Michaels et al (4,857,015).

Claim 6 recites that the electrically conductive element is an iris spring, but Del Negro does not disclose the iris spring. Instead, Del Negro uses a gripping ring 30 to provide electrical connection between the sleeve 12 and the shielding 4.

Michaels discloses an electrical connector 10 comprising a conductive sleeve 12, a wire 62 having a shielding 66, and an iris spring 30 for electrically connecting the sleeve 12 with the shielding 66 to provide grounding to the connector 10.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the connector taught by Del Negro such that it would have an iris spring as taught by Michaels because it only deals with the use of different electrically conductive element to provide grounding to the connector. Both gripping ring and iris spring are known in the art of an electrical connector.

Regarding claim 14, it only deals with duplication of parts. It has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

14. Claims 8-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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15. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

None of the cited references shows a connector comprising a front body, an intermediate body having an axially tapered passage, and a rear body having passage with a front end having smaller diameter than a diameter of a conductor of a wire and a rear end having larger diameter than a diameter of an insulation of the wire, wherein the front body has axially rearwardly projecting fingers extending through the intermediate body and fitting with the rear body.

Conclusion

16. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 3,501,737 by Harris et al., US Patent No. 3,706,958 by Blanchenot, US Patent No. 3,997,232 by Dunaway, US Patent No. 4,120,556 by Waldron et al., US Patent No. 4,820,204 by Batty, and US Patent No. 6,537,104 B1 by Hagmann et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hae M Hyeon whose telephone number is 571-272-2093. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (8:30-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hae M Hyeon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

hnh

hnh

Hae Moon Hyeon